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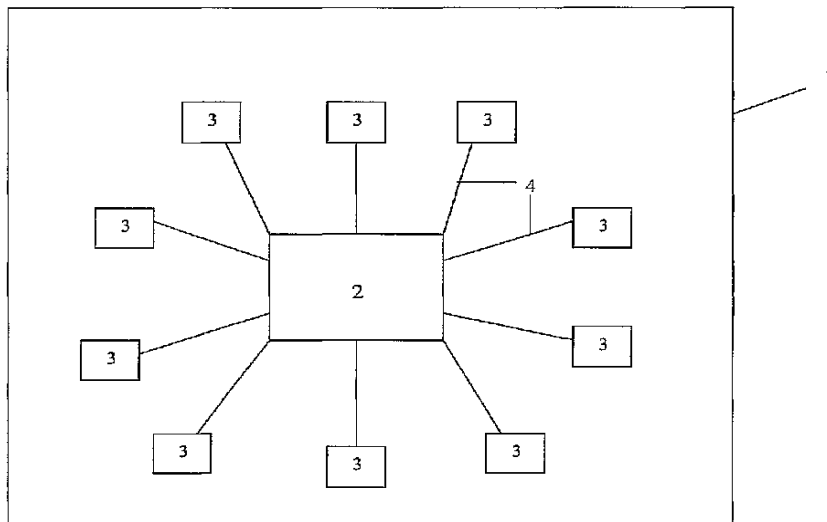
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(54) Title: SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF SECURE, TRUSTED DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENTS AND FACILITATION OF SECURED COMMUNICATION EXCHANGE NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: Systems and methods of establishment of secure, trusted dynamic environment and facilitation of secured communication exchange networks may include a community (1) having an intermediary (2) with a contractual link (4) to a plurality of members (3). An agreement between an applicant and an intermediary may be created which may obligate the applicant to a set of community rules. Members (3) of a community (1) may submit inquiry requests for communication with each other and can obtain certificates of compatibility for such communications.

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SYSTEMS AND METHODS OF ESTABLISHMENT OF SECURE, TRUSTED DYNAMIC ENVIRONMENTS AND FACILITATION OF SECURED COMMUNICATION EXCHANGE NETWORKS

5 I. FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to data management and, to a system and method for managing the exchange of data and related services between a plurality of entities subject to community-wide rules governing their interaction(s). More specifically, the present invention relates to systems and methods of establishment of secure, trusted dynamic environments and facilitation of secured communication exchange networks.

15 II. BACKGROUND

Many emerging business imperatives, particularly those driven by privacy and security concerns, can require tightly controlled partner interaction frameworks that could be binding across an entire business community. Some of these imperatives will derive from the mandated provisions of federal and state laws such as the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA"), both hereby incorporated by reference. Compliance with the HIPAA transaction, privacy and security regulations presents especially difficult problems for which existing solutions are very expensive.

For example, the HIPAA regulations may include provisions that mandate that each health care provider, health plan or healthcare clearinghouse (collectively "Covered Entities") must enter into legally-binding agreements with any business associate or trading partner that performs a function, activity or the like on their behalf and with whom they exchange Protected Health Information. In addition, Covered Entities may be required to certify their privacy and security regulation compliance and perhaps even to require such certification from all Covered Entities with whom they exchange Protected Health Information.